

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 39-41 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 40 being independent.

Claims 1 and 39-41 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 18 and 21-224 of U.S. Patent No. 6,702,882 (Yakushigawa et al.).

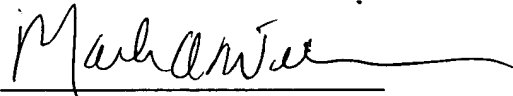
Without conceding the propriety of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, thereby obviating the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is requested.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1 and 39-41 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the concurrently-filed Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the subject application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark A. Williamson", written over a horizontal line.

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